

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 IGA-02 EB-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01 H-02

AID-05 /064 W

----- 045170

R 121122Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7109

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 2767

STATE FOR NEA AND PM, SECDEF FOR ISA/DSAA, CINCPAC FOR
POLAD/J48.

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, AF

SUBJECT: EFFECT OF CHANGES IN FOREIGN MILITARY
TRAINING PROGRAM

REF: A) KABUL 1829 (NOTAL) B. STATE 51768

1. SUMMARY: CHANGES FORESEEN REFTELS WILL RESULT NOT ONLY IN FEWER OFFICERS ATTENDING MILITARY TRAINING COURSES IN THE UNITED STATES, BUT WILL ALSO CUT DEEPLY INTO THE EXTENT OF TRAINING THEY WILL RECEIVE WHILE THERE. THIS TELEGRAM PRESENTS SPECIFIC ESTIMATES OF HOW HIGHER COSTS WILL AFFECT U.S. MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR AFGHAN OFFICERS BASED UPON LATEST INFORMATION ON PRICING. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS STRONGLY THAT, BASED ON CURRENT PRICING, \$265,000 BE PROGRAMMED ANNUALLY FOR FY 77 AND FY 78 MILITARY TRAINING. THIS IS LEAST AMOUNT WHICH CAN BE ALLOCATED AND STILL ENABLE US TO RETAIN, AT PRESENT LEVELS, OUR SMALL BUT IMPORTANT PROGRAM WITH THE AFGHAN MILITARY. END SUMMARY

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2. EMBASSY/DEFENSE ATTACHE NOW HAVE HARD COST ESTIMATES

WHICH ENABLE US TO DETERMINE WITH CONSIDERABLE ACCURACY EFFECTS OF RECENT PRICE INCREASES UPON MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TRAINING FOR AFGHAN OFFICERS. THESE EFFECTS ARE LARGE AND WILL BE INEVITABLY DETRIMENTAL TO UNITED STATES INTERESTS IN THAT THEY WILL REDUCE NOT ONLY TOTAL NUMBER OF OFFICERS ATTENDING COURSES IN THE U.S. BUT LENGTH OF TRAINING TIME FOR THOSE OFFICERS WHO DO GO. REDUCTION OF TRAINING LENGTH WILL ESPECIALLY PREJUDICE HIGH QUALITY REPUTATION AMERICAN TRAINING HAS ENJOYED. IF PERSONNEL LEVELS OF EARLIER YEARS CANNOT BE MAINTAINED, THE FOLLOWING LOSSES WILL BE INCURRED: (THE LOSSES ARE FORESEEN WITHIN MOST PRUDENT PLAN WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DEVISE).

3. DURING FISCAL 1976 AND FOR TRANSITIONAL QUARTER (FY 7T) WE FORESEE NET DECREASE OF TWO OFFICERS. IN FISCAL YEAR 1977 TOTAL NUMBER OF OFFICERS TRAVELING TO THE U.S. FOR TRAINING WILL BE DECREASED BY SIX, FOUR AFGHAN AIR FORCE AND TWO ARMY.

4. IN TERMS OF COURSES PROGRAMMED IN THE U.S. FOR AFGHAN OFFICERS, THE FOLLOWING CANCELLATIONS ARE INEVITABLE UNLESS INCREASED FUNDS ARE MADE AVAILABLE.

A. FY 76 PROGRAM:

- (1) COMD GEN STAFF COLLEGE (2 SPACES);
- (2) SENIOR OFFICER PREVENTATIVE LOGISTICE COURSE (2 SPACES);
- (3) ON-JOB TRAINING FOLLOWING FIELD ARTILLERY OFFICER ADVANCED COURSE (4 SPACES);
- (4) AIRBORNE AND ON-JOB TRAINING FOLLOWING INFANTRY OFFICERS ADVANCED COURSE (3 SPACES);
- (5) ON-JOB TRAINING FOLLOWING ENGINEER OFFICER ADVANCED COURSE (2 SPACES);
- (6) ADMINISTRATION COURSE FOLLOWING SQUADRON OFFICERS SCHOOL/MAP (2 SPACES);
- (7) ADMIN MANAGEMENT/EXECUTIVE SUPPORT OFFICER COURSE AND ADMINISTRATION COURSE (1 SPACE EACH);
- (8) SQUADRON OPERATIONS COURSE FOLLOWING AIR

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COMD STAFF COLLEGE (2 SPACES);

B. FY 7T PROGRAM:

ENGLISH LANGUAGE COURSE, FIELD ARTILLERY OFFICER ADVANCED COURSE, ON-JOB TRAINING, MECHANICAL MAINTENANCE COURSE AND MANAGEMENT OF QUALITY FUNCTIONS COURSE, SUPPLY MANAGEMENT OFFICER COURSE, AND

SUPPLY AND SERVICES OFFICER COURSE (ALL 2 SPACES);
NOTE: ABOVE WERE CANCELLED TO ALLOW PROGRAMMING
OF THE FOLLOWING COURSES WHICH WERE ELIMINATED FROM
THE FY 76 PROGRAM:

(A) AIR COMD AND STAFF COLLEGE (1 SPACE);
(B) COMD AND GEN STAFF COLLEGE (2 SPACES) AND
SENIOR OFFICER PREVENTATIVE LOGISTICS COURSE (2 SPACES).

C. FY 77 PROGRAM:

(1) ENGLISH LANGUAGE COURSE FOR COMD GEN STAFF
COLLEGE STUDENTS;
(2) ENGLISH LANGUAGE COURSE FOR ALL ADVANCED/
CAREER COURSES REDUCED BY THREE WEEKS (8 SPACES
AFFECTED);
(3) SIX FOLLOW-ON COURSES. (NOTE: ONLY FOLLOW-
ON COURSES THUS REMAINING ARE: LANGUAGE LAB MAINT-
ENANCE ON-JOB TRAINING FOLLOWING LANGUAGE INSTRUCTOR
COURSE (2 SPACES); PREVENTATIVE LOGISTICS COURSE
FOLLOWING COMD AND GEN STAFF COLLEGE (2 SPACES); AND
ADMIN MANAGEMENT/EXECUTIVE SUPPORT OFFICER COURSE
(1 SPACE) FOLLOWING SQUADRON OFFICERS SCHOOL/MAP).

5. IT SHOULD BE NOTED FROM ABOVE THAT ENGLISH
LANGUAGE TRAINING AND FOLLOW-ON COURSES ARE MAJOR
CASUALTIES OF INCREASED TRAINING COURSE PRICES. A
DISADVANTAGE OF CUTBACKS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING
IS THAT WE MAY FIND OURSELVES SELECTING LESS QUALIFIED
OFFICERS WHO HAVE GOOD LANGUAGE ABILITY IN PREFERENCE
TO BROADER GAUGED OFFICERS FOR WHOM ENGLISH MAY NOT
COME SO EASILY. THIS HOWEVER IS A SITUATION WE HOPE
CAN BE (IN PART AT LEAST) IMPROVED BY OUR WORKING HERE
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WITH AFGHAN MILITARY TO UP-GRADE QUALITY OF ITS ENGLISH
TEACHING PROGRAM. WHAT WE REGRET MORE ACUTELY IS
ELIMINATION OF MOST FOLLOW-ON TRAINING COURSES. OVER
THE YEARS THIS WILL ERODE QUALIFY OF AFGHAN CANDIDATES
FOR COMMAND LEVEL COURSES TO POINT THAT AFGHAN
OFFICERS WILL BE VIRTUALLY EXCLUDED FROM TRAINING AT
THIS LEVEL. YET IT IS THE OFFICER AT THIS STAGE OF
HIS CAREER WHOM WE MOST WANT TO BE ORIENTED TOWARD
UNDERSTANDING OF THE UNITED STATES AND ITS POLICIES
AND PURPOSES.

6. AMBASSADOR AND DEFENSE ATTACHE FIRMLY RECOMMEND
THAT NUMBERS OF AFGHAN TRAINEES ATTENDING COURSES IN
THE U.S., AND THE DURATION OF THEIR STAY THERE, BE
STABILIZED AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO EXISTING TRAINING

LEVELS. ESTIMATES HERE ARE THAT FOR THIS \$265,000
PER ANNUM NEED BE ALLOCATED FOR TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR
AFGHANISTAN.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COSTS, MILITARY TRAINING, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976KABUL02767
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760139-0572
From: KABUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760472/aaaacjks.tel
Line Count: 173
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 KABUL 1829
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <27 SEP 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EFFECT OF CHANGES IN FOREIGN MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAM
TAGS: MASS, AF, US
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006